

## CLAIMS

1. A method for announcing and transmitting linked short messages (SMS), preferably in the GSM or UMTS mobile radio system, between a service provider and a mobile radio device, characterized in that, prior to the transmission of at least two linked short messages to the mobile radio device, the maximum possible memory capacity in the mobile radio device is checked, and the short message is sent in its entirety only after it has been determined that sufficient memory space is available.

2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the check of the necessary free memory capacity in the mobile radio network is based on the free memory space indicated by the mobile radio device.

3. The method according to claim 2, characterized in that the check of the necessary free memory capacity takes place in the service center (SC) of a provider.

4. The method according to claim 2, characterized in that the check of the necessary free memory capacity takes place in the Home Location Register (HLR).

5. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the check of the necessary free memory capacity takes place in the mobile radio device.

6. The method according to one of claims 1 through 5, characterized in that information about the total number of linked short messages in the first short message that has been or is to be transmitted is used for checking the necessary free memory capacity in the mobile radio device.

7. The method according to claim 6, characterized in that, in the case of insufficient memory capacity, the mobile radio device sends an error message to the mobile radio network, and an entry is created in the HLR or SC of the network.

8. The method according to one of claims 6 or 7, characterized in that, in the event of sufficient memory capacity, the mobile radio device sends a message about the sufficient memory space to the mobile radio network, and the linked short messages are transmitted.

9. The method according to one of claims 6 through 8, characterized in that, in the event that sufficient memory capacity is available at a later time, the mobile radio network transmits a message about the sufficient memory space to the mobile radio network, and the HLR or the SC of the network searches linked short messages that have not yet been sent and transmits them to the available memory space in the mobile radio device.

10. The method according to one of claims 1 through 9, characterized in that the information about the amount of free memory space is transmitted in a deliver report of an RP-ACK response, preferably in the user data (TP-UD) or the user-data header (TP-UDH) contained therein.